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9 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
10 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
11

12 **GEORGE GONZALEZ,**
13 Plaintiff,
14
15 **v.**
16 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA; CITY**
OF HEMET; PATRICK
17 **SOBASZEK; ANDREW REYNOSO;**
SEAN IRICK; and DOES 1-10,
18 **inclusive,**
Defendants.

Case No. 5:25-cv-00331-KK-DTB

**STATE DEFENDANTS' NOTICE
OF MOTION AND MOTION TO
DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S FIRST
AMENDED COMPLAINT;
MEMORANDUM OF POINTS
AND AUTHORITIES**

Date: May 8, 2025
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Courtroom: 3
Judge: Honorable Kenly Kiya
Kato
Trial Date: Not yet set.
Action Filed: 12/24/2024

TO PLAINTIFF AND HIS ATTORNEY OF RECORD:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on May 8, 2025 at 9:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard in Courtroom 3, of the above-entitled Court, located at 3470 12th Street, Riverside, CA 92501, Defendants, State of California, acting by and through the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and Officer Sean Irick (collectively the State Defendants), will and hereby do move the Court for dismissal of the First Amended Complaint (FAC) for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted as set forth herein.

Pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil procedure Rule 12(b)(6), State Defendants challenge Plaintiff's first, fifth, sixth, and seventh causes of action on the following grounds:

1. Plaintiff's first cause of action fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted as it lacks facts sufficient to support a Fourth Amendment violation.

2. Plaintiff's fifth cause of action fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted as it lacks facts sufficient to support a battery claim.

3. Plaintiff's sixth cause of action fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted as it lacks facts sufficient to support a negligence cause of action.

4. Plaintiff's seventh cause of action fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted as it lacks facts sufficient to support a Bane Act violation.

The motion is based on this Notice of Motion, the Memorandum of Points and Authorities, all pleadings and records on file in this action, and on such further authority, evidence, or argument (if any) as may be presented at or before any hearing on this Motion.

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1 Meet and confer efforts were exhausted prior to the filing of State
2 Defendants' Motion to Dismiss the Complaint. On March 21, 2025, counsel for
3 State Defendants sent Plaintiff's counsel correspondence outlining the deficiencies
4 alleged in the Complaint. The parties met and conferred by telephone on March 27,
5 2025 but were unable to resolve the issues raised in State Defendants' meet and
6 confer correspondence. (Declaration of Deputy Attorney General, Ashley Reyes, at
7 ¶¶2-3.)

8 Dated: March 31, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

9 ROB BONTA
10 Attorney General of California
11 NORMAN D. MORRISON
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

12 /s/ Ashley Reyes
13 ASHLEY REYES
14 Deputy Attorney General
15 *Attorneys for Defendants, State of*
16 *California, acting by and through the*
17 *California Highway Patrol, and*
18 *Officer Sean Irick*
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I. INTRODUCTION

On January 24, 2024, Plaintiff was involved in an officer-involved shooting in the city of Beaumont. The First Amended Complaint (FAC) intentionally omits any factual content outlining events leading up to the shooting at issue, and instead merely alleges that Defendants were pursuing Plaintiff on foot and concludes without any factual support that Plaintiff was not an immediate threat of death or serious bodily injury to any person, no deadly force warning was given prior to the use of deadly force, and there were reasonable less-intrusive alternatives available to Defendants.

The FAC contains seven causes of action, four of which are against the State Defendants. State Defendants now move to dismiss the Complaint pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6) for the failure to state a claim. Specifically, State Defendants move on the following grounds: (1) Plaintiff has failed to allege facts demonstrating the existence of a Fourth Amendment Violation; (2) Plaintiff has failed to allege facts demonstrating a battery occurred; (3) Plaintiff has failed to allege facts demonstrating that Defendants were negligent; and (4) Plaintiff has failed to allege facts demonstrating a violation of the Bane Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 52.1). As will be established below, Plaintiff's allegations are inadequate to state a claim for excessive force, battery, negligence, or a violation of California Civil Code §52.1

II. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

According to the FAC, Defendants were pursuing Plaintiff on foot through an industrial area when he was shot from behind. FAC, ¶¶25, 27. Plaintiff claims that he was not a threat to any person, and the Defendants had time to assess the situation, plan, contain Plaintiff, and safely take him into custody. *Id.*, ¶¶ 26, 30.

Plaintiff alleges that the use of deadly force against Plaintiff by all Defendants was excessive and unreasonable because at the time the force was used, Plaintiff was not an immediate threat of death or serious bodily injury to any person, no

1 deadly force warning was given prior to the use of deadly force, and there were
2 reasonable less-intrusive alternatives to the use of deadly force available to
3 Defendants. *Id.*, ¶31. As a result, Defendants allegedly displayed negligent tactics,
4 prior to, during, and after the alleged use of deadly force, including poor
5 positioning, poor planning, lack of communication, and failing to de-escalate the
6 situation. *Id.*, ¶33.

7 Plaintiff claims he was shot multiple times from behind by Defendants,
8 causing him to collapse to the floor. FAC, ¶37. He was transferred to Riverside
9 University Health System Medical Center and treated for gunshot wounds and
10 underwent emergency surgery. *Id.*, ¶38.

11 Notably, the FAC lacks any facts regarding what led up to the shooting,
12 circumstances relating to why Defendants were involved with Plaintiff, or why
13 force was allegedly used. All of the intentionally omitted facts are required to plead
14 and demonstrate the existence of Plaintiff's alleged causes of action.

15 **III. AUTHORITY FOR MOTION**

16 A motion to dismiss made pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6) tests the legal
17 sufficiency of the claims stated in the complaint. *Navarro v. Block*, 250 F.3d 729,
18 732 (9th Cir. 2001). Dismissal can be based on either lack of a cognizable theory or
19 the absence of sufficient facts alleged under a cognizable theory. *Johnson v.*
20 *Riverside Healthcare System, LP*, 534 F.3d 1116, 1121-1122 (9th Cir. 2008)
21 (quoting *Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Department*, 901 F.2d. 696,699 (9th Cir.
22 1990)). To survive a motion to dismiss, the complaint must contain sufficient
23 factual matter, accepted as true, to state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face.
24 *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 62, 678. A claim has “facial plausibility when the
25 plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable
26 inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged.” *Id.* at 679 (citing
27 *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007)). Threadbare recitals of
28 the elements of a cause of action, supported by mere conclusory statements, do not

1 suffice to establish a recognizable cause of action. *Ashcroft*, 556 U.S. at 678; *Bell*
2 *Atlantic*, 550 U.S. at 555.

3 The court must decide whether the facts alleged, if true, would entitle a
4 plaintiff to some form of legal remedy. If not, the motion to dismiss must be
5 granted. *Conley v. Gibson*, 355 U.S. 41, 45-46, (1957); *De la Cruz v. Tormey*, 582
6 F.2d 45, 48 (9th Cir. 1978). A court is not required “to accept as true allegations
7 that are merely conclusory, unwarranted deductions of fact, or unreasonable
8 inferences.” *In re Gilead Scis. Sec. Litig.*, 536 F.3d 1049, 1055 (9th Cir. 2008).
9 Furthermore, a complaint will not suffice if it tenders “naked assertion[s]” devoid
10 of “further factual enhancement.” *Bell Atlantic*, 550 U.S. at 557. In short, a plaintiff
11 must allege “enough facts to state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face,” not
12 just conceivable. *Id.*, at 570.

13 **IV. LEGAL ANALYSIS**

14 **A. The FAC Fails to Allege Facts Sufficient to Support a Fourth** 15 **Amendment Violation**

16 To state a claim under § 1983, a plaintiff must allege that “(1) the defendants
17 acting under color of state law (2) deprived plaintiff[] of rights secured by the
18 Constitution or federal statutes.” *Gibson v. United States*, 781 F.2d 1334, 1338 (9th
19 Cir.1986)(overruled on other grounds.) A defendant deprives another of a
20 constitutional right if the defendant “does an affirmative act, participates in
21 another’s affirmative acts, or omits to perform an act which he is legally required to
22 do that causes the deprivation of which [the plaintiff complains].” *Leer v. Murphy*,
23 844 F.2d 628, 633 (9th Cir. 1988) (quoting *Johnson v. Duffy*, 588 F.2d 740, 743
24 (9th Cir. 1978)). “The inquiry into causation must be individualized and focus on
25 the duties and responsibilities of each individual defendant whose acts or omissions
26 are alleged to have caused a constitutional deprivation.” *Leer*, 844 F.2d at 633.
27 However, even if a plaintiff is able to plausibly allege the deprivation of a
28 constitutional right under color of state law, government officials are nevertheless

1 protected from liability by the doctrine of qualified immunity “unless a plaintiff
2 pleads facts showing (1) that the official violated a statutory or constitutional right,
3 and (2) that the right was ‘clearly established’ at the time of the challenged
4 conduct.” *Ashcroft v. al-Kidd*, 563 U.S. 731, 735 (2011).

5 Claims of excessive force are analyzed under the framework set forth by the
6 Supreme Court in *Graham v. Conner*, 490 U.S. 386 (1989). This analysis requires
7 “a careful balancing of ‘the nature and quality of the intrusion on the individual’s
8 Fourth Amendment interests’ against the countervailing governmental interests at
9 stake.” *Id.* at 396. Balancing the individual’s Fourth Amendment interests against
10 the governmental interests requires an examination of “the totality of the
11 circumstances, including whatever factors may be relevant in a particular case.”
12 *Marquez v. City of Phoenix*, 693 F.3d 1167, 1174-75 (9th Cir. 2012).

13 To determine whether an officer’s use of force is reasonable requires “careful
14 attention to the facts and circumstances of each particular case, including the
15 severity of the crime at issue, whether the suspect poses an immediate threat to the
16 safety of the officers or others, and whether he is actively resisting arrest or
17 attempting to evade arrest by flight.” *Graham*, 490 U.S. at 396. The most important
18 consideration is whether objective factors show that the suspect posed an immediate
19 threat to safety. *Id.* This inquiry is an objective one and court’s look to whether the
20 officer’s actions are “objectively reasonable” in light of the facts and circumstances
21 confronting them, without regard to their underlying intent or motivation.” *Id.*
22 Moreover, “[t]he calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact
23 that police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments—in
24 circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving—about the amount of
25 force that is necessary in a particular situation.” *Id.*, at 396–97.

26 Plaintiff’s allegations are insufficient to state a claim for excessive force as he
27 completely omits any allegations regarding the events and circumstances leading up
28 to and surrounding the officer involved shooting, other than the fact that Defendants

1 were pursuing Plaintiff on foot through an industrial area. As currently alleged, the
2 FAC essentially admits that plaintiff was either actively resisting arrest or
3 attempting to evade arrest by active flight from the pursuing law enforcement
4 officers. FAC, ¶25.

5 Plaintiff attempts to remedy his lack of facts by conclusory allegations such as
6 the Defendants were not “responding to a serious or violent crime, did not have
7 information that Plaintiff had just committed or was about to commit a serious or
8 violent crime.” FAC, ¶24. He further claims that the Defendants “had several
9 reasonable, less-intrusive alternatives available to them prior to their use of deadly
10 force, but failed to attempt and/or exhaust those alternatives, including but not
11 limited to: seeking cover; maintaining a safe and tactically advantageous distance
12 from Plaintiff; deescalating the situation with communication; planning and
13 coordinating movements and responsibilities of officers; containing Plaintiff; and/or
14 utilizing less-lethal force such as a K-9, 40mm launcher, Taser, or OC spray.” FAC,
15 ¶46. However, the FAC is completely devoid of any facts to support these
16 allegations.

17 The Supreme Court has long recognized that “[n]ot every push or shove, even
18 if it may later seem unnecessary in the peace of a judge’s chambers,” violates the
19 Fourth Amendment. *Graham*, 490 U.S. at 396. Thus, a plaintiff must allege that a
20 defendant’s use of force was objectively unreasonable “in light of the facts and
21 circumstances confronting the officer...” *Id.*, at 397. (emphasis added.) Here, there
22 are no facts outlining what occurred prior to the foot pursuit, why the Defendants
23 were pursuing Plaintiff, or what facts and circumstances they were confronted with
24 prior to and during the foot pursuit. Thus, the FAC fails to provide sufficient factual
25 context to demonstrate that the Defendants’ actions were objectively unreasonable
26 in light of the circumstances. See *Hoffman v. Jourdan*, 2:14-cv-2736-MCE-KJN-P,
27 WL 6438249 at *3 (E.D. Cal. Oct. 22, 2015)(“Because plaintiff failed to fully set
28 forth the circumstances surrounding this incident, including her own actions....the

1 court is unable to evaluate the totality of the circumstances, or determine whether
2 defendants' actions were objectively reasonable in light of such circumstances.”)

3 Additionally, the Fourth Amendment permits an officer to use the degree of
4 force that is “objectively reasonable” under the circumstances. *Graham*, 490 U.S. at
5 397. Here, there is no way to determine whether the force in this situation was
6 objectively reasonable under the circumstances because Defendants do not know
7 what the circumstances are. The FAC fails to provide a sufficient factual context for
8 the alleged excessive force incident, including what led up to the initial encounter
9 with Defendants, Plaintiff’s reaction to the initial encounter with
10 Defendants, whether Plaintiff complied with Defendants commands prior to the
11 officer-involved
12 shooting, and Plaintiff’s response to the Defendants and their alleged use of force.

13 Plaintiff has also failed to establish that Officer Irick is not entitled to qualified
14 immunity as the FAC fails to identify the right that Officer Irick allegedly violated.
15 See *Davis v. City of San Jose*, 69 F.Supp. 3d 1001, 1006 (N.D.Cal.2014)(holding
16 that the plaintiff was required to identify the right that defendants allegedly violated
17 with a greater degree of specificity that simply “an unreasonable seizure violates
18 the Fourth Amendment.”) Since Plaintiff has failed to allege facts necessary to
19 establish a plausible claim that Officer Irick’s conduct was unreasonable, his claim
20 for excessive force against Officer Irick should be dismissed.

21 **B. The Complaint Fails to Allege Facts Sufficient to Support a**
22 **Battery Claim**

23 Plaintiff’s fifth cause of action for battery is against both CHP and Officer
24 Irick. Plaintiff alleges that CHP is vicariously liable pursuant to Government Code
25 section 815.2, and bases his battery claim on the alleged use of excessive force by
26 Defendants. Plaintiff’s battery claim is analyzed under the same standards as that of
27 an excessive force claim under the Fourth Amendment. See *Brown v. Ransweiler*,
28 171 Cal.App.4th 516, 527 (2009) (“A state law battery claim is a counterpart to a

1 federal claim of excessive use of force.”); *Nelson v. City of Davis*, 709 F. Supp.2d
2 978, 992 (E.D.Cal.2010)(“[T]he same standards apply to both state law assault and
3 battery and section 1983 claims premised on constitutionally prohibited excessive
4 force...”)

5 “A battery is any willful and unlawful use of force or violence upon the person
6 of another.” Cal. Penal Code § 242. To prove a civil battery, a plaintiff must prove:
7 (1) the defendant intentionally did an act which resulted in a harmful or offensive
8 contact with the plaintiff's person; (2) the plaintiff did not consent to the contact;
9 and (3) the harmful or offensive contact caused injury, damage, loss, or harm to
10 plaintiff. *Piedra v. Dugan*, 123 Cal.App.4th 1483, 1495, 21 Cal.Rptr.3d 36 (2004).
11 However, “to prevail on a claim of battery against a police officer, the plaintiff
12 bears the burden of proving the officer used unreasonable force.” *Munoz v. City of*
13 *Union City*, 120 Cal.App.4th 1077, 1102 (2004).

14 A California peace officer “may use reasonable force to make an arrest,
15 prevent escape or overcome resistance, and need not desist in the face of
16 resistance.” *Munoz*, 120 Cal.App.4th, at 1102 (citing Cal. Penal Code § 835(a)).
17 Determination whether an officer breached this duty is “analyzed under the
18 reasonableness standard of the Fourth Amendment to the United Constitution.” *Id.*
19 at 1102, fn. 6. Therefore, the question is whether a peace officer's actions were
20 objectively reasonable based on the facts and circumstances confronting the peace
21 officer. *Id.* at 1103.

22 Plaintiff's battery claim against State Defendants cannot be established unless
23 he proves that Officer Irick used unreasonable force against him. See *Saman v.*
24 *Robbins*, 173 F.3d 1150, 1156-57, fn. 6 (9th Cir. 1999). Since Plaintiff has failed to
25 allege sufficient facts necessary to establish a plausible claim that Officer Irick used
26 unreasonable force against him, his battery claim against State Defendants should
27 be dismissed.

28 ///

C. The Complaint Fails to Allege Facts Sufficient to Support a Negligence Claim

1. Plaintiff's negligence Theories Lack Factual Support

A negligence claim requires a plaintiff to establish: “(1) a legal duty to use due care; (2) a breach of that duty; and (3) injury that was proximately caused by the breach.” *Knapps v. City of Oakland*, 647 F. Supp. 2d 1129, 1164 (N.D. Cal. 2009). Under California law, “police officers have a duty not to use excessive force.” *Id.* (citing *Munoz*, 120 Cal. App. 4th at 1101).

As with Plaintiff's claim for battery, his negligence claim based on Defendants' alleged breach of a duty to refrain from using excessive force fails along with his Fourth Amendment claims. *Hernandez v. City of Pomona*, 46 Cal.4th 501, 513–17 (2009). Plaintiff alleges that State Defendants failed to properly and adequately assess the need to use force, used “negligent tactics and handling of the situation with Plaintiff SOLIS (sic), including pre-shooting negligence.” FAC, ¶113, subd. (a)-(b). He further alleges that State Defendants breached their duty of care by negligently handled evidence and witnesses, as well as communication of information during the incident. *Id.*, ¶113, subd., (d)-(e). The FAC does not contain facts supporting any of these theories of negligence. For example, there are no allegations concerning the events leading up to the shooting or foot pursuit to establish pre-shooting negligence, nor are there are facts relating to the communication of information or the handling of any evidence or witnesses. Plaintiff has also failed to allege facts relating to his conduct before, during, and after the alleged use of force.

Because Plaintiff has failed to plausibly allege that Officer Irick's use of force was not unreasonable under the Fourth Amendment, his negligence claim against State Defendants should be dismissed.

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2. **Plaintiff's Negligence Theory for Failure to Train and Supervise Against CHP Fails as a Matter of Law**

Part of Plaintiff's negligence theory is that CHP failed to "properly train and supervise employees, both professional and non-professional, including Defendant....Irick." FAC ¶113, subd., (c). However, as set forth below, case law has established that no statute imposes direct or vicarious liability on a public entity for its alleged negligence in regard to supervision or training of its employees.

a. Direct Liability

As a matter of law, a public entity cannot be held liable for negligent training, supervision or discipline under a direct or vicarious liability theory. All government tort liability is dependent on the existence of an authorizing statute or enactment. Gov. Code, § 815, subd. (a).

The Supreme Court recognized that all government tort liability is dependent on the existence of an authorizing statute or enactment:

In other words, **direct tort liability of public entities must be based on a specific statute declaring them to be liable**, or at least creating some specific duty of care, and not on the general tort provisions of Civil Code section 1714. Otherwise, the general rule of immunity for public entities would be largely eroded by the routine application of general tort principles.

Eastburn v. Regional Fire Protection Auth., 31 Cal.4th 1175, 1183 (2003) (emphasis added).

This principle that requires a statutory basis in order to pursue a direct liability theory against a public entity was explained in *Munoz*, 120 Cal.App.4th at 1081-1082, where the court held that the city had no liability when there was no statutory basis for the city to employ, train, supervise, and discipline its peace officers. *Id.* at 1081-1082 (disapproved on other grounds in *Hayes v. County of San Diego*, 57 Cal.4th 622, 639 (2013)).

1 In *Munoz*, the relatives of a woman shot by police, who were summoned
2 because of the woman's erratic behavior, sued the officer who shot her and his
3 employing city. The court held the city could be vicariously liable for the officer's
4 unreasonable use of deadly force but rejected a theory of direct liability based on
5 the city's negligence "in the selection, training, retention, supervision, and
6 discipline of police officers." *Munoz, supra*, 120 Cal.App.4th at 1112. The court
7 concluded that "direct tort liability of public entities must be based on a specific
8 statute declaring them to be liable, or at least creating some specific duty of care,
9 and not on the general tort provisions of Civil Code section 1714." *Id.* at 1112,
10 quoting *Eastburn*, 31 Cal.4th at 1183. The plaintiffs in *Munoz* were unable to
11 identify any statutory basis for direct liability against the city. *Munoz*, 120
12 Cal.App.4th at 1113. Alternatively, the plaintiffs argued that public entities always
13 act through individuals, however, the court reasoned as follows:

14 the Supreme Court clearly did not adopt the view that because all entities,
15 public and private, must act through individuals, that suffices to establish
16 *direct liability*. Indeed, the legal distinction between direct and vicarious
17 liability was the whole point and purpose of the *Eastburn* decision. To accept
18 [plaintiffs'] argument would render the distinction between direct and
19 vicarious liability completely illusory in all cases except where the employer
20 is an individual.

21 *Id.*, at 1113 (original emphasis).) Here, there is no statutory basis for direct
22 liability against CHP. There is no statute that authorizes or enacts a cause of action
23 for negligent training and supervision against a public entity.

24 **b. Vicarious Liability**

25 It is well settled that legal authority rejects arguments that a public employer
26 can be held vicariously liable for training, oversight, or discipline. *Caldwell v.*
27 *Montoya*, 10 Cal.4th 972, 984 (1995). For example, in *de Villers v. County of San*
28 *Diego*, 156 Cal.App.4th 238, 263 (2007), the plaintiffs sued the County of San

1 Diego after a county toxicologist murdered her husband with poison taken from the
2 county coroner's office where she worked. Conceding the county could not be
3 vicariously liable for the toxicologist's murderous acts – which were obviously
4 outside the scope of her employment – the plaintiffs instead alleged theories of
5 direct and vicarious liability for the county's negligence in hiring and supervising
6 her. *Id.*, at 248. The court rejected direct liability on the ground that the plaintiffs
7 had failed to “identify any statutory basis supporting a direct claim against a
8 governmental entity for injuries allegedly caused by the entity's generic negligence
9 in hiring and supervising its employees.” *Id.* at 253. Under Government Code §
10 815.2, the county could not be vicariously liable for its employees' failure to
11 properly investigate the toxicologist when she was hired or to guard against her
12 theft of poisonous drugs, as “there was no evidence supporting a conclusion any
13 County employee had undertaken a special protective relationship toward de
14 Villers.” *Id.* at 249. In the absence of such a special relationship, the toxicologist’s
15 supervisors and co-workers owed her husband no duty to prevent his murder and
16 could therefore not be personally liable for his death, defeating public entity
17 liability under Section 815.2. *Id.*, at. 249-251.

18 Accordingly, due to the absence of a special relationship between Plaintiff and
19 CHP, Plaintiff cannot state a cause of action for negligent supervision or training
20 against CHP as a matter of law, and this theory of negligence should be dismissed.

21 **D. The Complaint Fails to Allege Facts Sufficient to Support a**
22 **Violation of the Bane Act**

23 Finally, Plaintiff alleges that State Defendants violated his rights under
24 California Civil Code §52.1, known as the Bane Act. FAC, ¶125. Plaintiff bases his
25 Bane Act claim upon the same facts as his Fourth Amendment claim. *Id.*, ¶126.

26 The Bane Act “provides a cause of action for violations of a plaintiff’s state or
27 federal civil rights committed by ‘threats, intimidation, or coercion.’” *Chaudhry v.*
28 *City of Los Angeles*, 751 F.3d 1096, 1105 (9th Cir. 2014). In addition to showing

1 that his or her rights were violated by threats, intimidation, or coercion, a plaintiff
2 must also show that the arresting officer had a specific intent to violate the
3 arrestee's right(s). See *Cornell v. City and County of San Francisco*, 17
4 Cal.App.5th 766, 801 (2017)(“the egregiousness required by Section 52.1 is tested
5 by whether the circumstances indicate the arresting officer had a specific intent to
6 violate the arrestee's right....”).

7 Neither Plaintiff's pleading of the facts nor his Bane Act cause of action
8 contain allegations regarding the State Defendants' specific intent to violate
9 Plaintiff's rights or reckless disregard for his constitutional rights. Moreover,
10 Plaintiff fails to plead with particularity facts sufficient to draw a reasonable
11 inference that State Defendants acted “with the particular purpose” of violating his
12 constitutional rights. See *Cornell*, 17 Cal.App. 5th, at 803. The FAC merely alleges
13 that Defendants “intentionally violated Plaintiff[‘s]...rights to be free from
14 excessive force by demonstrating reckless disregard for his rights when Defendants
15 shot [him.]” FAC, ¶128. Plaintiff does not provide any allegations evincing the
16 required special intent on part of Officer Irick. Plaintiff's allegations are nothing but
17 conclusory statements that State Defendants intended to violate his rights and/or
18 acted with reckless disregard to his constitutional rights, without more.

19 Accordingly, Plaintiff's seventh cause of action against the State Defendants fails to
20 state a claim and should be dismissed.

21 ///

22 ///

23 ///

V. CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, State Defendants respectfully request the Court dismiss Plaintiff's first, fifth, sixth, and seventh causes of action against them.

Dated: March 31, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

The undersigned, counsel of record for State Defendants, certifies that this brief contains 4,160 words, which complies with the word limit of L.R. 11-6.1.

Dated: March 31, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Case Name: **Gonzalez v. State of California,
et al.** No. **5:25-cv-00331-KK-DTB**

I hereby certify that on April 1, 2025, I electronically filed the following documents with the Clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF system:

**STATE DEFENDANTS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO DISMISS
PLAINTIFF'S FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT; MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND
AUTHORITIES**

I certify that **all** participants in the case are registered CM/ECF users and that service will be accomplished by the CM/ECF system.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United States of America the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on April 1, 2025, at Fresno, California.

C. Vue
Declarant

/s/ C. Vue
Signature

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